# Parent Resources for Digital Citizenship

Digital Citizenship is a concept which helps teachers, technology leaders and parents to understand what students/children/technology users should know to use technology appropriately and safely. We want to provide resources to help us focus on parent understanding and involvement. We have and will continue to stress the importance of students being responsible digital citizens.

There are many resources available to assist in promoting digital citizenship. Please see below.
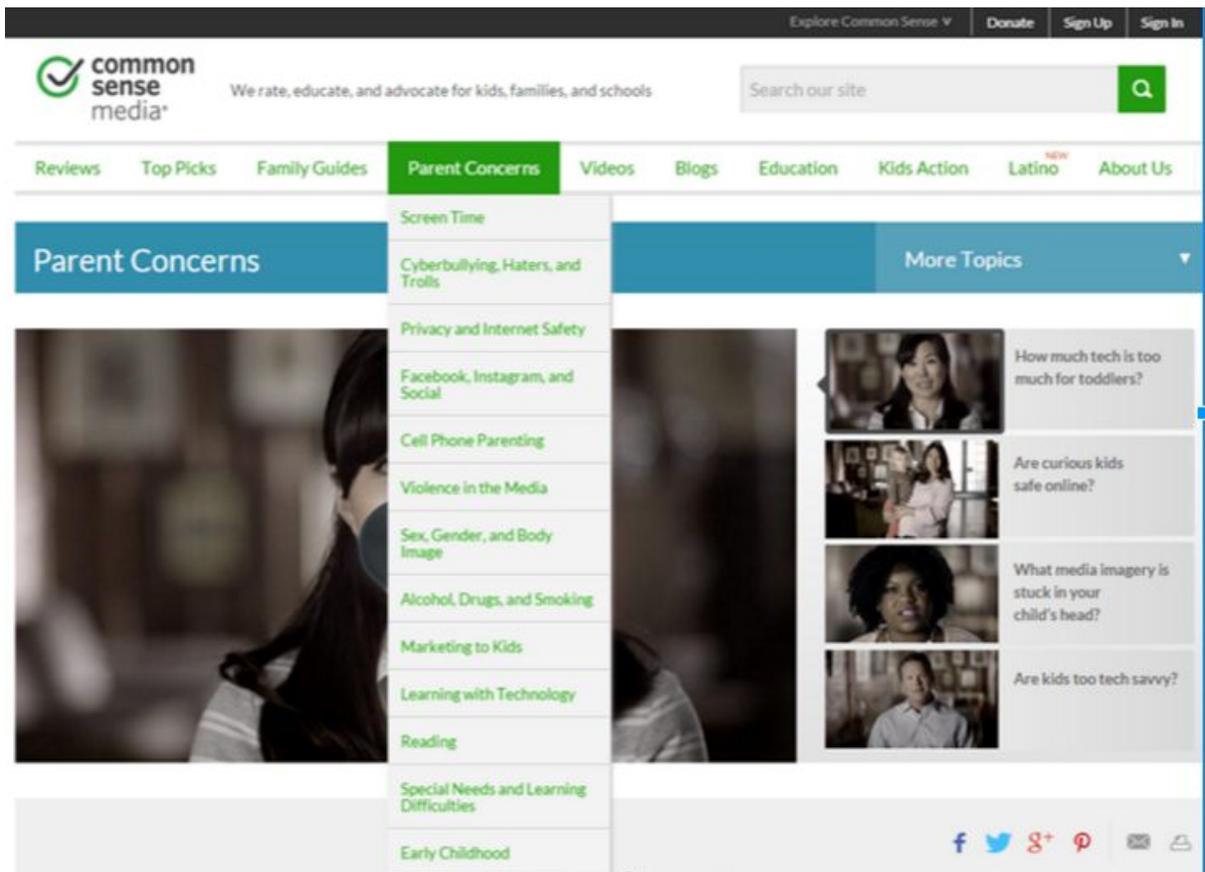


**Our Mission**

Common Sense is dedicated to helping kids thrive in a world of media and technology. We empower parents, teachers, and policymakers by providing unbiased information, trusted advice, and innovative tools to help them harness the power of media and technology as a positive force in all kids' lives.

Media and technology are at the very center of all our lives today -- especially our children's.  Kids today spend over 50 hours of screen time every week. The media content they consume and create has a profound impact on their social, emotional, cognitive, and physical development.  Learning how to use media and technology wisely is an essential skill for life and learning in the 21st century. But parents, teachers, and policymakers struggle to keep up with the rapidly changing digital world in which our children live and learn.  Now more than ever, they need a trusted guide to help them navigate a world where change is the only constant.

Visit Common Sense Media for resources addressing digital citizenship. The parent section provides information on a variety of topics. Videos, research, and answers to questions can be located within the parent section. The following screenshot provides a list of topics under the parent concerns tab. Note there are additional sections such as family guides, education, and review.

**Our Mission**

NetSmartz Workshop is an interactive, educational program of the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children® (NCMEC) that provides age-appropriate resources to help teach children how to be safer on- and offline. The program is designed for children ages 5-17, parents and guardians, educators, and law enforcement. With resources such as videos, games, activity cards, and presentations, NetSmartz entertains while it educates.

**Our Goals**

- Educate children on how to recognize potential Internet risks
- Engage children and adults in a two-way conversation about on- and offline risks
- Empower children to help prevent themselves from being exploited and to report victimization to a trusted adult

Visit NetSmartz for digital citizenship resources including videos, quizzes, and presentations.

**Additional Websites:**

- ConnectSafely.org has basic guidelines for teens and parents about cyberbullying, sexting, social networking, and more.
- GetGameSmart.com provides information and resources to help families make smart choices about what they play, browse, and watch.
- GetNetWise.org is a useful resource for families to learn how to protect themselves from online danger and create the safest online experience possible.
- iKeepSafe.org seeks to give parents, educators, and policymakers the information and tools which power them to teach children the safe and healthy use of technology and the Internet.
- Lookout Mobile Security & The Online Mom's Generation Smartphone: A Guide for Parents of Tweens & Tweens has resources to help families talk to their kids about mobile security and safe smartphone use.
- OnGuardOnline.gov is the FTC's main consumer facing website to educate everyone on staying safe and secure online.

- [NQ Mobile & National Cyber Security Alliance's Kids and Smartphones: a Guide to Mobile Safety](#) has resources for families who are considering giving their kids a smartphone.
- [WebWiseKids.org](#) is a unique organization that offers fun, challenging and interactive simulations based on real-life criminal cases. Each program has been designed specifically for use with young people in classrooms and computer labs and is guaranteed to be easy to use and flexible with your classroom schedule.
- [Wired Safety.org](#) provides help, information and education to Internet and mobile device users of all ages. They help victims of cyber-abuse ranging from online fraud, cyberstalking and child safety, to hacking and malicious code attacks. They also help parents with issues, such as social networking and cyberbullying.